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- (71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): ZYMO-GENETICS, INC. [US/US]; 1201 Eastlake Avenue East, Scattle, WA 98102 (US). UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON [US/US]; Seattle, WA 98195 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): MOORE, Emma, E. [US/US]; 3507 30th Avenue West, Seattle, WA 98199 (US). REH, Thomas [US/US]; 9006 25th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115 (US).
- (74) Agent: LUNN, Paul, G.; Zymo Genetics, Inc., 1201 East-lake Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98102 (US).

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(54) Title: METHOD OF INDUCING PROLIFERATION OF RETINAL STEM CELLS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method for promoting the proliferation of retinal stem cells using IL-17B. IL-17B is put into a cell culture medium containing retinal stem cells to promote the proliferation and/or differentiation of retinal stem cells. The retinal stem cells can then be transplanted into the retina to promote the growth of the photoreceptor cells, the rods and the cones. Also IL-17B can be administered directly into the retina to promote the proliferation and/or differentiation of the retinal stem cells.

METHOD OF INDUCING PROLIFERATION OF RETINAL STEM CELLS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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Vision is one of the most important special senses in humans. Light enters the eye and impinges on photoreceptors of a specialized epithelium, the retina. The photoreceptors include rods and cones. Rods have low thresholds for detecting light and operate best under conditions of reduced lighting (scoptic vision). However, rods neither provide well-defined visual images nor contribute to color vision. Cones, by contrast, are not as sensitive as rods to light and so operate best under daylight conditions (photopic vision). Cones are responsible for high visual acuity and color vision.

Information processing within the retina is performed by retinal interneurons, and the output signals are carried to the brain by the axons of retinal ganglion cells. Fetal and adult retinal stem cells give rise to all the various cell types in the retina including a) the rod and the cone photoreceptors, b) the horizontal, bipolar, and amacrine interneurons, c) the ganglion projection neurons, and d) the Muller glia cells.

Degenerative diseases of the retina often result in blindness due to the destruction of the rods or cones. Retinal stem cell therapy has been developed in which retinal stem cells are harvested from the patient grown and expanded in culture and reintroduced into the retina in an attempt to promote regeneration of the rods and cones. Growth factors that have been used in culture to promote proliferation of the retinal stem cells include a) transforming growth factor alpha (TGF- α) and epidermal growth factor (EGF), b) fibroblast growth factor (FGF), c) TGF- β 2 & 3, and d) sonic hedgehog (shh). While these growth factors are useful, there is still a need to discover additional agents to promote the proliferation and differentiation of retinal stem cells into photoreceptor rods or cones.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention fills this need by providing for a method of promoting the proliferation of retinal stem cells comprising bringing IL-17B into contact with retinal stem cells. Retinal stem cells can be grown in culture into which IL-17B is added and re-implanted into a patient's retina to produce functioning rods and cones of the retina. Alternatively, the IL-17B can be administered directly into retina.

The teachings of all of the references cited in the present specification are incorporated in their entirety herein by reference.

Definitions

The term "effective amount" as used herein regarding the effective amount of IL-17B administered in accordance with the present invention means an amount of IL-17B that causes proliferation of retinal stem cells. The effective amount of IL-17B or IL-17 to be administered is from 0.1 µg to 100 µg of IL-17B or IL-17 per kilogram of body weight per day. More preferably, the effective amount is from 1 µg to 500 µg of IL-17B or IL-17 per kilogram of body weight. IL-17B should be administered daily until the symptoms of neuropathy dissipate. If the retinal stem cells are grown in culture, the concentration of IL-17B in the culture medium should be at least 100 ng/ml.

IL-17B (formerly called 'Zcyto7') and a method for making IL-17B polypeptides have been disclosed in International Patent Application No. PCT/US98/08212, Publication No. WO 98/49310.

Introduction

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The present invention is based upon the discovery that IL-17B or IL-17 can induce the proliferation and/or differentiation of retinal stem cells. IL-17B can be used to treat many ocular disorders in which retinal neurons have degenerated, such as macular degeneration and glaucoma. Age-related macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in the United States. Currently, there is no satisfactory treatment. In promoting the proliferation of retinal stem cells, one can administer IL-17B directly into the retina or by a gene therapy modality to stimulate the growth of endogenous stem cells. Secondly, retinal stem cells can be removed from the patient and IL-17B can

be used to stimulate the growth of retinal stem cells in vitro, and then transplant the stem cells back into the retina of the patient.

. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the sequences disclosed in SEQ ID NOs: 1, and 2 represent a single allele of the human IL-17B. One can clone allelic variants of these sequences by probing cDNA or genomic libraries from different individuals according to standard procedures.

Modes of Administration

In general, pharmaceutical formulations will include an IL-17B protein in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, such as saline, buffered 10 saline, 5% dextrose in water or the like. Formulations may further include one or more excipients, preservatives, solubilizers, buffering agents, albumin to prevent protein loss on vial surfaces, etc. Methods of formulation are well known in the art and are disclosed, for example, in Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, Gennaro, ed., (Mack Publishing Co., Easton, PA, 19th ed., 1995). In a culture medium in which retinal stem cells are growing, the IL-17B should be present at a concentration of at least 100 ng/ml. If the IL-17B is administered directly into the retina, the therapeutic doses will generally be in the range of 0.1 to 100 µg/kg of patient weight, with the exact dose determined by the clinician according to accepted standards determination of dose is within the level of ordinary skill in the art. The proteins may 20 be administered for acute treatment, over one week or less, often over a period of one to three days or may be used in chronic treatment, over several months or years.

Nucleic Acid-based Therapeutic Treatment

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IL-17B can be also administered to a retinal stem cell by means of gene therapy. In one embodiment, a gene encoding an IL-17B polypeptide is introduced *in vivo* in a viral vector. Such vectors include an attenuated or defective DNA virus, such as but not limited to herpes simplex virus (HSV), papillomavirus, Epstein Barr virus (EBV), adenovirus, adeno-associated virus (AAV), and the like. Defective viruses, which entirely or almost entirely lack viral genes, are preferred. A defective virus is not infective after introduction into a cell. Use of defective viral vectors allows for administration to cells in a specific, localized area, without concern that the vector can infect other cells. Examples of particular vectors include, but are not limited to, a defective herpes virus 1 (HSV1) vector [Kaplitt *et al.*, *Molec. Cell. Neurosci.2*: 320-330 (1991)], an attenuated adenovirus vector, such as the vector described by Stratford-Perricaudet *et al.*, *J. Clin. Invest.* 90:626-630 (1992), and a defective adeno-associated

virus vector [Samulski et al., J. Virol., 61:3096-3101 (1987); Samulski et al. J. Virol., 63:3822-3828 (1989)].

In another embodiment, the gene can be introduced into a retinal stem

cell by means of a retroviral vector, e.g., as described in Anderson et al., U.S. Patent
No. 5,399,346; Mann et al., Cell, 33:153 (1983); Temin et al., U.S. Patent No.
4,650,764; Temin et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,980,289; Markowitz et al., J. Virol. 62:1120
(1988); Temin et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,124,263; International Patent Publication No.
WO 95/07358, published March 16, 1995 by Dougherty et al. and Blood, 82:845

10 (1993).

Alternatively, the vector can be introduced by lipofection *in vivo* using liposomes. Synthetic cationic lipids can be used to prepare liposomes for *in vivo* transfection of a gene encoding a marker [Felgner *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 84:7413-7417 (1987); see Mackey *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 85:8027-8031 (1988)]. The use of lipofection to introduce exogenous genes into specific organs *in vivo* has certain practical advantages. Molecular targeting of liposomes to specific cells represents one area of benefit. It is clear that directing transfection to particular cells represents one area of benefit. It is clear that directing transfection to particular cell types would be particularly advantageous in a tissue with cellular heterogeneity, such as the pancreas, liver, kidney, and brain. Lipids may be chemically coupled to other molecules for the purpose of targeting. Targeted peptides, *e.g.*, hormones or neurotransmitters, and proteins such as antibodies, or non-peptide molecules could be coupled to liposomes chemically.

It is possible to remove the retinal stem cells from the body and introduce the vector as a naked DNA plasmid and then re-implant the transformed cells into the body. Naked DNA vector for gene therapy can be introduced into the desired host cells by methods known in the art, e.g., transfection, electroporation, microinjection, transduction, cell fusion, DEAE dextran, calcium phosphate precipitation, use of a gene gun or use of a DNA vector transporter [see, e.g., Wu et al., J. Biol. Chem., 267:963-967 (1992); Wu et al., J. Biol. Chem., 263:14621-14624 (1988)].

Example 1 Cloning of IL-17B

IL-17B was identified from expressed sequence tag (EST) 582069 (SEQ ID NO: 3) by its homology to Interleukin-17. The EST582069 cDNA clone was obtained from the IMAGE™ consortium Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory through Genome Systems, Inc. The cDNA was supplied as an agar stab containing *E. coli* transfected with the plasmid having the cDNA of interest and then streaked out on an LB 100 µg/ml ampicillin and 100 µg/ml methicillin plate. The cDNA insert in EST582069 was sequenced. The insert was determined to be 717 base pairs long with a 180 amino acid open reading frame and a 22 amino acid signal peptide.

Example 2 Construction of IL-17B Expression Vectors

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A 473 bp IL-17B PCR DNA fragment was generated with 1 µl of a dilution of the EST582069 plasmid prep of Example 2 and 20 picomoles (pm) of primer SEQ ID NO: 4 and 20 pm primer SEQ ID NO: 5. The digested reaction mixture was electrophoresed on a 1% TBE gel; the DNA band was excised with a razor blade and the DNA was extracted from the gel with the Qiaquick« Gel Extraction Kit (Qiagen). The excised DNA was subcloned into plasmid nfpzp9, which had been cut with *Bam* and *Xho*. Nfpzp9 is a mammalian cell expression vector comprising an expression cassette containing the mouse metallothionein-1 promoter, a sequence encoding the tissue plasminogen activator (TPA) leader, then multiple restriction sites. These were followed by the human growth hormone terminator, an *E. coli* origin of replication and a mammalian selectable marker expression unit containing the SV40 promoter, enhancer and origin of replication, a dihydrofolate reductase gene (DHFR) and the SV40 terminator.

30 IL-17B was purified by means of affinity chromatography using anti-IL-17B antibodies.

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Example 3 Cloning of Murine IL-17B

Mouse IL-17B was identified from an expressed sequence tag (EST) 660242 (SEQ ID NO: 8). EST660242 cDNA clone was obtained from the IMAGE consortium Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory through Genome Systems, Inc. The cDNA was supplied as an agar stab containing E. coli transfected with the plasmid having the cDNA of interest and then streaked out on an LB 100 μg/ml ampicillin, 25 μg/ml methicillin plate. The cDNA insert in EST660242 was sequenced. The insert was determined to be 785 base pairs with an open reading frame of 180 amino acids and a putative 20 amino acid signal peptide. The sequences are defined by SEQ ID NO: 7 and SEQ ID NO: 6.

Example 4 Proliferation of Retinal Stem Cells in Culture

Retinal stem cells were obtained from the retina of E17-18 rat embryos and grown in culture. Preliminary results indicate that human recombinant IL-17B stimulates the growth of retinal stem cells. The cells spread out on the substrate within one day, and the IL-17B-treated cells appeared to proliferate more rapidly than the control cells. We verified that IL-17B stimulated the proliferation of these cells by using an antibody that recognizes a protein present in M-phase cells (phosphohistone3). We found many more cells labeled with phospho-histone3 antibody in the culture containing the IL-17B.

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CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method for inducing the proliferation and/or differentiation of retinal stem cells comprising bringing the retinal stem cells into contact with interleukin-17B (IL-17B).

- 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the IL-17B polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 7, and 9-28.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the retinal stem cells are grown in a culture medium.
- 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the retinal stem cells are implanted into the retina of a mammal after the stems cells have come into contact with IL-17B.
- 5. A method for inducing the proliferation and/or differentiation of retinal stem cells comprising administering IL-17B into the retina.

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<400> 14 Gln Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly 10 Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 40 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 75 70 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 90 85 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 100 105 110 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 120 125 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 135 140 Gln Arg Val Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 15

<211> 160

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 15

Gln Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly 10 Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 40 35 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 75 70 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 90

8

 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met
 100
 105
 110

 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 115
 120
 125

 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 130
 135
 140

 Gln Arg Leu Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe 150
 150
 155

<210> 16 <211> 160 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 16 Gln Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly 10 Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg 25 Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 40 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 75 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 90 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 100 105 110 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 115 120 125 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 135 140 Gln Arg Phe Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe 150 155

<210> 17 <211> 160 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 17
Sin Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Ly

Gln Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly 10 Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Gly Arg 25 Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 35 40 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 70 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 90 95 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 100 105 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 115 120 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 135 140 Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 18 <211> 160 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 18 Gln Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Ser Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg 20 25 Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 35 40 45 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 70 75 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 90 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 100 105 110 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 115 120 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 135 140 Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 19 <211> 160 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 19 Gln Pro Arg Ser Pro Lys Val Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly 10 Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg 20 25 Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 40 35 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 60 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 70 75 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 90 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 105 110 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 120 125 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 135 140 Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe 145 155

<210> 20 <211> 160 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 20
Gln Pro Arg Val Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly

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10

PCT/US02/07967

Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg 25 Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 40 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 70 75 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 85 90 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 100 105 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 115 120 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 135 140 Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 21

<211> 158

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 21

Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly Pro Leu 10 Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu Met Val 40 Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys Glu Val 55 Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro Trp Gly 70 75 Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu Pro Glu 90 85 Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met Gln Glu 100 105 Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro Val Arg 120 125 Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg Gln Arg 135 140 Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 22

<211> 154

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 22

 Ser Lys
 Arg Lys
 Gly
 Gly
 Arg
 Pro
 Gly
 Pro
 Leu
 Ala
 Pro
 Gly
 Pro
 In
 In

11

<210> 23 <211> 151 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 23 Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val 10 Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu 20 25 Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser 40 45 Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser 55 Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly 85 90 Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val 105 110 100 Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro Val Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro 120 125 Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala 135 Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 24 <211> 160 <212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 24 His Pro Arg Asn Thr Lys Gly Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Ser 10 Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg 20 30 25 Val Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Leu Gly Glu 40 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Pro Ala Lys Lys Lys Cys 55 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Leu Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 70 75 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Ala Asp Leu 85 90 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 100 105 110 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 120 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Gln Pro Pro Arg Pro Gly Pro Cys Arg

135 Gln Arg Val Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe 150 155 <210> 25 <211> 158 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 25 Arg Asn Thr Lys Gly Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Ser Pro Leu 10 Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Val Lys 25 Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Leu Gly Glu Met Val 40 Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Pro Ala Lys Lys Cys Glu Val 55 Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Leu Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro Trp Gly 75 Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Ala Asp Leu Pro Glu 85 90 Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met Gln Glu 100 105 Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro Val Arg 115 120 125 Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Gln Pro Pro Arg Pro Gly Pro Cys Arg Gln Arg 130 135 Val Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe 150 <210> 26 <211> 153 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens <400> 26 Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly Pro Leu Ala Pro Gly Pro His 10 Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met 25 Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn
45 35 40 Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His 70 75 Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys 90 Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val 100 105 110 Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro Val Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro 120 Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr 135 Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe 150 <210> 27 <211> 128 <212> PRT <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 27 Met Lys Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu 1 10 5 Met Val Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys 20 25 30 Glu Val Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro 40 Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu 55 60 Pro Glu Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met 75 70 Gln Glu Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro 85 90 Val Arg Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg 100 105 110 Gln Arg Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile Phe

<210> 28

<211> 157

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 28 Arg Ser Pro Lys Ser Lys Arg Lys Gly Gln Gly Arg Pro Gly Pro Leu 10. Ala Pro Gly Pro His Gln Val Pro Leu Asp Leu Val Ser Arg Met Lys 20 25 30 Pro Tyr Ala Arg Met Glu Glu Tyr Glu Arg Asn Ile Glu Glu Met Val 35 40 Ala Gln Leu Arg Asn Ser Ser Glu Leu Ala Gln Arg Lys Cys Glu Val 55 60 Asn Leu Gln Leu Trp Met Ser Asn Lys Arg Ser Leu Ser Pro Trp Gly 70 75 Tyr Ser Ile Asn His Asp Pro Ser Arg Ile Pro Val Asp Leu Pro Glu 85 90 Ala Arg Cys Leu Cys Leu Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Phe Thr Met Gln Glu 105 100 110 Asp Arg Ser Met Val Ser Val Pro Val Phe Ser Gln Val Pro Val Arg 115 120 125 Arg Arg Leu Cys Pro Pro Pro Pro Arg Thr Gly Pro Cys Arg Gln Arg 135 140 Ala Val Met Glu Thr Ile Ala Val Gly Cys Thr Cys Ile

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